GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1733
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
SHORTAGE OF RAINFALL IN COUNTRY
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States which experienced shortage of rainfall in the country during the last one year;

(b) whether this shortage of rainfall has affected country`s overall agriculture production;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the comparative figures for the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): As per India Meteorological Department (IMD), States which receive rainfall withdeviation of −20% to −59% from the normal is termed as Rainfall Deficient while the State which receive rainfall with deviation −60% or more from the normal is called Scanty .

In Monsoon-2002, major rainfall Deficient States were Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, PunjabHimachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh while Rajasthan was scanty.

At All-India level, Monsoon-2002 rainfall was 81% of the normal.

(b)&(c): According to the second advance estimates, production of foodgrains oilseeds, Sugarcane and Cotton this year is lower than the levels attained last year. The following table gives the figures for 2002-03 vis-Ã -vis previous two years.

(In million tonnes)

	2002-03$(IInd Adv)	2001-02(Final)	2000-01
Foodgrains Production	183.17	212.02	199.53
Oilseeds	15.44	20.46	18.44
Sugarcane	285.36	300.10	295.96
Cotton+	8.94	10.09	9.52

$ 2nd Advance Estimates +In million bales of 170 kg each

(d): Taking into account the increase in input cost caused by drought, the Government have announced one-time Special Drought Relief varying from Rs.5 to Rs.20 per quintal for Kharif crops of 2002-03. Similarly, one-time special drought relief varying from Rs.5 to Rs.10 per quintal was announced for rabi crops of 2002-03. Other measures include promotion of watershed development, development and promotion of new technology etc. As regards oilseeds, in addition to the measures aimed at promoting production and productivity, import of edible oils is allowed freely to bridge the gap between domestic production and availability.